

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20 and ending at page 7, line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In one aspect of the invention there is provided an apparatus for spraying powders which includes a housing having first and second opposed ends defining a chamber terminating in an outlet passageway at a first end of the housing. A high voltage electrode is positioned in the chamber spaced upstream of the outlet passageway and , the high voltage electrode has a first surface area. A ground electrode is positioned in the chamber spaced upstream from the high voltage electrode and the ground electrode has a second surface area sufficiently larger than a the first surface area of the high voltage electrode ~~in order to allow high voltages to be applied to the high voltage electrode without~~ such that when a high voltage is applied to the high voltage electrode, an electrical field produced in a vicinity of the ground electrode is sufficiently low enough to prevent arc discharging occurring in the vicinity of the ground electrode in the chamber. Also an inlet opening into the chamber is provided for conducting a powder-gas mixture into the chamber. The high voltage electrode receives a gas for avoiding powder deposits on the high voltage electrode.--

Please add the following new paragraphs on page 8, after line 12 beginning at page 6, line 20:

-- Figure 2a a cross sectional view of Figure 2 showing the ground electrode sections being jointly grounded;

Figure 2b is a cross sectional view of Figure 2 showing the ground electrode sections being separately grounded;--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 7 and ending at page 11, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The ground electrode 10, which is spaced upstream from the high voltage electrode 24, is preferably cylindrical. The chamber 16 defines an inner cylindrical surface and the ground electrode 10 has an outer diameter such that an outer surface of the cylindrical electrode 10 bears against the inner cylindrical surface of chamber 16. The ground electrode 10 can also be several pieces forming sections of the cylindrical surface, each being separately (Figure 2b) or jointly (Figure 2a) grounded. The ground electrode 10 has an inner surface having a surface area that is much larger than a surface area of the high voltage electrode 24. A cylindrical body 38 is located along the axis 14 in the section of the housing 12 containing the ground electrode 10. The cylindrical body 38 is made of an electric insulating material and serves the purpose of accelerating the powder flow so as to keep the ground electrode 10 from being coated with powder. The body 38 reduces the effective open cross sectional area of the

chamber 16 upstream of the high-voltage electrode 24, thus creating an increased flow velocity from the inlet 22 toward the high-voltage electrode of the powder-air mixture. A power supply 32 is connected to electrode 24 by a wire 34 running through an insulated tube 36 which extends along axis 14 of the housing 12. Section 26 of housing 12 containing the ground electrode 10 may optionally be made to have a larger or smaller diameter than the rest of the housing 12 to optimize flow of the powder-air mixture so as to provide an appropriate velocity and turbulence for best cleaning of the ground electrode 10. --